

Intervention: Tuition reimbursement for public health workers

Finding: Insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

Tuition reimbursement for both graduate and undergraduate public health programs provides public health workers with support and assistance to further their education in critical skill and competency areas.

Findings from the systematic reviews:

A review of the literature found insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness of tuition reimbursement for public health workers as a means to promote a sufficient and competent public health workforce. Practices that lack sufficient research to support effectiveness should not be confused with ineffective programs. Rather, they should be recognized as programs that have the potential to become evidence-based practices—if properly evaluated. Practitioners are encouraged to monitor the impact of these programs in their communities and report on their findings in order to build a base of knowledge sufficient to reach consensus.

Additional information:

Public Health Workforce Study – <http://hpr.hrsa.gov>

The Council of State Governments Trends Alert – www.csg.org